Nineteenth Century Men's World and American Bicycle Records Set in Illinois*

High-Wheel Records by Distance

Distance	Time	Rider	Place	Date
1 mile	2:25 3/5	W.W. Windle	Peoria	Sept. 15, 1890
5 miles	13:51 3/5	A.B.Rich	Peoria	Sept. 15, 1890
50 miles	2:54:01 1/2	William Woodside (professional)	Chicago	Dec. 8, 1884
100 miles	6:50:55	J.S. Prince	Chicago	Oct. 28, 1883
100 miles indoors	5:39:53 4/5	F.E. Spooner	Chicago	Jun. 8, 1890

Safety Records by Distance

Distance	Time	Rider	Category	Paced?	Place	Date
¼ mile	:30 2/5	A.A. Zimmerman	Amateur	No	Chicago	Aug. 8, 1893
¼ Mile	:28 3/5	A. I. Brown	Amateur Class B but World Record		Decatur	Oct. 13, 1894
¼ Mile	:20	Major Taylor	Professional	Yes	Chicago	Nov. 9, 1899
⅓ Mile	:41 2/5	E.C. Bald	Amateur	No	Chicago	Aug. 10, 1895
⅓ Mile	:38 1/5	E. Chapman	Amateur	No	Chicago	Aug. 31, 1895

⅓ Mile	:38 1/5	W.C. Sanger	Professional		Chicago	Jul. 11, 1896
½ Mile	1:01 1/5	Metcalfe	Amateur	No	Chicago	Aug. 29, 1895
½ Mile	1:10 4/5	W.W. Windle	Amateur	Yes	Peoria	Sept. 11, 1890
½ Mile	1:13 1/5	P.J. Berlo	Amateur		Peoria	Sept. 15, 1890
½ Mile	:58 4/5	Tom Cooper	Professional		Chicago	Jul. 3, 1896
½ mile	:41 4/5	E.A. McDuffee	Professional	Yes	Chicago	Nov. 7, 1899
½ mile	:41	Major Taylor	Professional	Yes	Chicago	Nov. 10, 1899
¾ mile	1:49 2/5	W.W. Windle			Peoria	Sept. 15, 1890
¾ Mile	1:51	P.J. Berlo	Amateur	No	Peoria	Sept. 15, 1890
1 mile tandem	2:24 1/5	A.A. Zimmerman & W.W. Windle	Amateur	No	Peoria	Sept. 21, 1891
1 mile	2:30	P.J. Berlo	Amateur	No	Peoria	Sept. 15, 1890

1 mile	1:22 2/5	Major Taylor	Professional	Yes	Chicago	Aug. 3, 1899
1 mile	1:19	Major Talor	Professional	Yes	Chicago	Nov. 20, 1899
2 miles	4:59 3/5	W.F. Murphy			Peoria	Sept. 18, 1891
2 miles	4:14	C.M. Murphy	Amateur	No	Chicago	Aug. 9, 1895
5 miles	9:58 1/5	A. Gardiner	Class B	Yes	Chicago	Oct. 14, 1895
5 miles	10:44 4/5	F. J. Titus	Amateur	No	Chicago	Aug. 9, 1895
6 miles	16:08 2/5	C.W. Donntage			Peoria	Sept. 22, 1891
10 miles	26:46 2/5	C.W. Donntage			Peoria	Sept. 22, 1891
15 miles	40:55 2/5	C.W. Donntage			Peoria	Sept. 22, 1891
25 miles	1:21:14 1/4	N.H. Van Sicklen	Amateur		Chicago	Aug. 15, 1885
20 miles	53:56 3/5	C.W. Donntage			Peoria	Sept. 22, 1891
50 miles	2:29:00	William Becker	Amateur	No, flying	Freepor t	Oct. 17, 1895

				start		
100 miles	4:59:27 4/5	C.W. Miller	Professional	No	Chicago	Oct. 2, 1897
200 miles	11:47:15	F.E. Spooner	Amateur	No	Chicago	Jul. 8-9, 1892
300 miles	18:29:28	F.E. Spooner	Amateur	No	Chicago	Jul. 8-9, 1892
500 miles	56:05	A.E. Smith			Chicago	Jun. 28-Jul. 1, 1896
1000 miles	113:45	J.F. Gunther		No	Chicago	Oct. 6-11, 1894

Safety Records by Time

Time	Distance	Rider	Category	Paced?	Location	Date
2 hours	51 miles 1670 yards	C. W. Miller	Professio nal	No	Chicago	Sept. 24, 1896
4 hours	97 ½ miles	C.W. Miller	Professio nal	No	Chicago	Sept. 24, 1896
5 hours	117 1/4	Frank Waller	Professio nal	No	Chicago	Sept. 24, 1896
12 hours	265 miles	Louis Grimm			Chicago	Sept. 24, 1896
24 hours	486 miles	Louis Gimm			Chicago	Sept. 24-25,

						1896

*At the time they were set, many of these records were claimed to be world records, and some certainly were. In the earlier days of cycling, international record-keeping was haphazard at best, so it is likely that many of these records were, more accurately, American records. Unfortunately, women's races were not sanctioned by the L.A.W., so no formal records were kept. During the safety bicycle era, separate paced records were established. When this information is known, I have included it. Professional vs. amateur was another important distinction in bicycle racing. Again, when known, I have included this information.

Records were compiled from the following sources:

- A.G. Spalding & Bros. *Spalding's Official Bicycle Guide.* New York: American Sports Publishing Company. Consulted multiple years between 1896-1899.
- "Cycling," *Outing* XVIII (April 1891): 8-9.
- Frances P. Prial. *The Best American and English Path & Road Cycle Records.* New York: W.N. Oliver & Co., 1885.
- Siegel, Cooper & Co. *Cycling Record Book*. Cleveland: Emil Grossman Co., 1898.
- Century Road Club of America. *C.R.C. Manual*, Terre Haute, IN: Moore & Langen Printing Co., 1898.
- *Tribune Almanac and Political Register*. New York: Tribune Association. Consulted multiple years between 1882-1900.